



THE BRITISH THORACIC SOCIETY

NOTICE OF VACANCY: PRESIDENT-ELECT (2026)/PRESIDENT (2027)

Applications are invited for the role of President-Elect/President. The successful candidate will become President-Elect at the AGM in November 2025, and take up their Presidential role for 12 months at the AGM in November 2026.

As President-elect, the post-holder becomes a Trustee of the Society and therefore takes on related responsibilities (see www.charity-commission.gov.uk). The BTS Board meets 4 times a year. Training for new Trustees is offered just before they take up post and is obligatory.

The President-Elect/President is also a member of the 5-strong Officers' Group, which acts as a "Finance, Audit and General Purposes Committee" as required between meetings of the Trustees, in particular to give support to the Society's Chief Executive. This Group comprises the Chair of the Board of Trustees (the most senior of Officers); the Honorary Treasurer; Honorary Secretary; President and President-elect. It meets monthly (usually via Teams, or immediately prior to Board meetings).

The President chairs two meetings of the BTS Council each year, in March and October. Council acts as an advisory body for the Society and meets in the mornings before the Board, thereby informing policy decisions as required. The President-elect will deputise for the President if necessary at meetings of Council.

The President takes up post at the Annual General Meeting in November. Their term in office usually begins with the President's Address, at the beginning of the presidential year, during the Winter Meeting. The choice of topic is left to the President.

The President chairs the Annual General Meeting at the very end of their presidential year.

There are a number of "ceremonial" aspects of the post. The President presents the BTS prizes at the Summer and Winter Meetings, the BTS Medal, the BTS President's Award and award for Meritorious Service at the Winter Meeting and is expected to make a short speech at the Summer Meeting Reception. She or he chairs one of the three annual BTS Lectures at the Winter Meeting and is also usually asked to chair several other symposia at both Meetings, if available. The President also hosts the annual Winter Meeting dinner when the conference is held in person.

BTS Nominations Committee: the President chairs two meetings annually, usually coinciding with the June and October Board meetings. The Committee has a significant role in relation to the Society awards.

In recent years, post-holders have sometimes championed an issue of importance for respiratory medicine. This is discussed and agreed with colleagues on the Board and must be congruent with the Society's aims and objectives and strategic plans. Alternatively, or additionally, the President may be

asked to convene a Working Party, represent BTS externally, or oversee a task which the Board feels requires input at a senior level.

The President is not the main contact or spokesperson for the Society in relation to “political” and strategic relationships. This role falls to the Chair of the Board of Trustees, who is the senior Honorary Officer and Trustee within the Society.

Role within BTS Management Structure

As one of the five Honorary Officers of the Society, the President and President Elect are key members of the Officers’ Group which meets regularly (by Teams) with senior staff to progress business between meetings of the Board and to discuss matters of resource management and to provide support to staff.

As a Trustee of the Society the President or President-Elect, along with the other Officers of the Society, will occasionally be asked to take a strategic lead on other matters of importance to the Society, such as setting up a subgroup, writing a proposal or commenting on a proposal received from another external body.

Other useful information

The work involved in undertaking this role is in the region of 2-4 hours per week, although this varies depending on the time of year and if there are any special pieces of work following Board meetings. On average, 6-8 days a year are spent in London on Society business.

All applicants/nominees must be proposed and seconded by members of the Society and be WITH THE CONSENT OF THE NOMINEE who should indicate acceptance of the nomination. Each nomination MUST be accompanied by a BRIEF synopsis of the nominee’s career; what skills and experience they will bring to the role; the names of the proposer and seconder; and a note confirming that the nominee is willing to stand. Nominations must be received by 8 August 2025. Please send to sally.welham@brit-thoracic.org.uk marked "In confidence".

Should there be more than one application/nomination for the role, an online election will be held in early September, at which all BTS members will be eligible to vote.

It is recommended that any member considering applying for this post discusses it with their Trust/employer to gain approval prior to application.

Revised by Chief Executive June 2025

Next review: June 2026